

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BLANTY 00647 022310 Z

66

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 RSR-01 SCI-06 HEW-08 AID-20 /136 W
----- 090173

P R 021655 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6134

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BLANTYRE 647

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: WHO, KS, KN, MI

SUBJ: NORTH KOREAN APPLICATION WHO MEMBERSHIP

REF: A. BLANTYRE 565; B. BLANTYRE 623; C. BLANTYRE 364

1. SECTION OFFICER IN MINEXTAFF R. L. NKOMBA, IN ABSENCE OF KAMISA, TOLD EMBOFF MAY 2 THAT IN LETTER DATED APRIL 28 PRESIDENT BANDA DIRECTED MALAWI WHO DELEGATION TO ABSTAIN ON POSTPONEMENT ISSUE. THIS DECISION IN RESPONSE TO LETTER FROM ROK EMBASSY IN NAIROBI REQUESTING SUPPORT ON POSTPONE-
MENT ISSUE.

2. AT TIME OF ORIGINAL EMBASSY APPROACH ON SUBJECT (REFTEL A), NKOMBA SAID MINEXTAFF WAS CONFIDENT THAT PREVIOUS POLICY WOULD BE FOLLOWED IN SUPPORT OF POSTPONEMENT. NKOMBA SAID PRESIDENT'S
APRIL 28 DECISION WAS SURPRISE TO MINEXTAFF OFFICERS.

3. AMBASSADOR HAS NOW RAISED MATTER WITH JOHN NGWIRI, SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, WHO HAS UNDERTAKEN LOOK INTO MATTER.

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4. COMMENT: PRESIDENT BANDA IN MAY 1 SESSION WITH NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE GROUP AND EMBOFFS SAID THAT HE REGRETTED BUT UNDERSTOOD REASONS FOR CLOSER U. S. TIES WITH COMMUNIST NATIONS; THAT MALAWI COULD NOT AFFORD TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES DUE INTERNAL THREAT OF HAVING MIS- SION IN MALAWI; BUT THAT REALITIES OF CHANGING WORLD MUST BE REFLECTED IN MALAWI' S ATTITUDES. EMBASSY BELIEVES APRIL 28 LETTER REFLECTS DEVELOPING TENDENCY TO AVOID POSITIONS IN OPPOSITION TO MAINSTREAM BLACK AFRICA ATTITUDES WHERE MALAWI' S INTERESTS NOT DIRECTLY AT STAKE (SEE REFTEL C).
BURDETT

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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NAIROBI
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SEOUL
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